

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7757

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 01413

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, UN, AORG, UK

SUBJECT: GENEVA GROUP CONSULTATION; PREVENTING POLITICIZATION OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

REF: STATE 17162

1. WE DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH PETER MAXEY, HEAD OF FCO UN DEPT. ON JANUARY 28 AND GAVE HIM A COPY OF OPERATIVE SECTIONS. HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT UK SHOULD BE ABLE SUPPORT MOST OF U.S. IDEAS. UK IS EQUALLY CONCERNED THAT SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ARE LOSING THEIR EFFECTIVENESS BECAUSE SO MUCH OF THE TIME AND ENERGY OF THE AGENCIES IS SPENT DEALING WITH POLITICAL ISSUES NOT RELATED TO AGENCY MISSIONS.

2. OF THE POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL, MAXEY SHOWED SPECIAL INTEREST IN DEFERRAL OF ISSUES TO UNGA AND REVIEW OF CHARTERS. HE THOUGHT THAT DEFERRAL MIGHT BE A GOOD METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING THE GOAL; HE WAS TROUBLED THAT CHARTER REVIEWS MIGHT OPEN A PANDORA'S BOX. BUT BRITS WILL STUDY ALL U.S. ARGUMENTS AND WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AT CONFIDENTIAL

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GENEVA GROUP MEETING.

3. UK DEL TO GENEVA GROUP WILL BE LED BY ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY MICHAEL WEIR. WE COULD NOT SEE HIM BECAUSE HE WAS PREPARING TO DEPART FOR U.S. WITH PRIME MINISTER WILSON. MAXEY WILL SEE WEIR AS LATTER PASSES THROUGH LONDON ON WAY TO GENEVA AND WILL GIVE HIM COPY OF OUR PAPER AT THAT TIME. MAXEY WILL ALSO ATTEND GENEVA MEETING. LONDON REPRESENTATION WILL BE ROUNDED OUT BY JOHN MCGREGOR (WHO RECENTLY LEFT UN DEPT. AFTER FOLLOWING ECOSOC/UN AFFAIRS GENERALLY FOR PAST TWO YEARS).

4. MAXEY WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM WILL BE IN GENEVA. HE UNDERSTANDS THAT US/UK

CONSULTATION HAS BEEN ARRANGED TO TAKE PLACE IN ADVANCE OF FORMAL GENEVA GROUP CONVENING. HE WILL MAKE SURE WEIR IS READY DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT AT THAT TIME.

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